REPORT

OF

A MEDICAL COMMITTEE

ON THE

CASES

OF SUPPOSED

SMALL-POX AFTER VACCINATION,

WHICH OCCURRED IN

FULLWOOD'S RENTS, HOLBORN,

IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1804.

WITH

AN ACCOUNT OF SOME SUBSEQUENT INOCULATIONS.

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REPORT

ON THE

CASES OF SUPPOSED SMALL-POX, &c. &c.

THE cases of two children in Fullwood's Rents, Holborn, said to be cases of Small-pox after Vaccination, having very much engaged the attention of the public, as well as that of the faculty, it was thought expedient by a numerous body of medical practitioners, met at the house of Messrs. Morgan and Wigham, in Holborn, on Wednesday, October 3d, 1804, to form a Committee for the purpose of investigating the minute particulars of each case, and of making some experiments calculated to remove every doubt on the subject.

 A com-

A committee was accordingly formed, consisting of the following gentlemen :—

Dr. Gower	Dr. Yelloly
Dr. Ash	Dr. Skey
Dr. Pemberton	Mr. Hurlock
Dr. Willan	Mr. Addington
Dr. Temple	Mr. Pears
Dr. Clarke	Mr. Morgan
Dr. Croft	Mr. Wigham

NANCY and MARY HODGES, of FULLWOOD'S RENTS, were the objects of attention, and as they had both been vaccinated at the Small-pox Hospital, the following correct copy of the particulars respecting their inoculation was obtained from the Hospital Register.

Die

		Yrs.	M.	D.	
James Paulett's Vacc. 10th day.	ALICE FENNELL,* In-door Patient.	20	0	0	3. 9.† Ceph. Lymph. 4. 10. ib. 5. 11. ib. 6. 12. Bloss. 10. 16. Drying. 14. 20. Discharged well, no pustules.

* The case of this patient, and also that of Lucy Goslee (page 7) are inserted for the purpose of shewing the source of the matter with which Ann and Mary Hodges were inoculated.

† For an explanation see page 8.

		Yrs.	M.	D.	
Alice Fennell's Vacc. 7th day.	ANN HODGES,* No. 15, Fullwood's-rents, Holborn.	0	11	0	6. 6. Elevated. 9. 9. Lymph, got a raſh†. 10. 10. Areola. 13. 13. Lymph and Areola. 16. 16. Scabbed.

* She was christened Nancy, but is entered in the register Ann.

† This term denotes a rose-coloured efflorescence over the surface of the body.

		Yrs.	M.	D.	
Eliza Belcher's Vacc. 10th day.	LUCY GOSLEE.	2	4	0	18. 8. Lymph. 20. 10. Areola. Slight fever last night. 24. 14. Drying. 28. 18. Scabbed.
Lucy Goslee's Vacc. 8th day.	MARY HODGES, May 17, 1802.	0.	9.	0.	26. 5. Lymph. 28. 10. Areola. 2. 15. Drying. 5. 18. Scabbed. 7. 20. ib.

The mode of registering cases at the Small-pox and Inoculation Hospital requires some explanation; and the entry of Alice Fennell's case, copied at page 5, will serve as a specimen.

The 1st column contains the name of the person from whom the Vaccine matter, employed for the inoculation, was taken, and also the period, or stage, of the vesicle.—The 2d column contains the name of the person vaccinated;—the 3d, the person's age, in years, months, and days.—In the 4th column the figures "3.9." denote the 3d day of the month (October) and the ninth from the vaccination; and the words which follow express the state of the disease on that day: thus, "Ceph." means Cephalalgia (head-ache); "Lymph." signifies that there was at that time lymph in the vesicle; "4. 10." mean the 4th of the month (Oct.) and the 10th of vaccination; "ib." expresses that the symptoms were the same as on the preceding day; "5. 11." the 5th of the month (Oct.) and the 11th of vaccination; "ib." as before; "6. 12. Bloss." this means that on the 6th

6th of the month (Oct.) and the 12th of vaccination, the Blossom, or Areola, was formed; "10. 16. drying," signifies that on the 10th of the month (Oct.) and 16th of the disease, the vesicle was drying; "14. 20. &c." that on the 14th of the month (Oct.) and twentieth of vaccination, the patient was discharged in good health, not having had any pustules.

The proof that Nancy and Mary Hodges had the Cow-pox, at the time specified, rests on the following evidences:—1st, The register of their cases, kept, as above, at the Small-pox Hospital:—2dly, The declaration of Mr. Wachsel, resident inoculator at the Hospital, who considers the appearances, and progress of Vaccination, in these children, to have been perfectly regular and satisfactory:—3dly, The cicatrices, or marks, remaining on their arms; which marks appear to the members of the Committee to be such as are usually left after Vaccine Inoculation.

In the months of August and September last, individuals of several families residing in Fullwood's Rents, Holborn, were affected with the natural Small-pox; and four children died of the disease, viz.

Charles Barnes, aged 2 years 3 months, at No. 3.

Mary Downs, aged 4 years, at No. 8.

John Griffiths, aged 3 years and 4 months, at No. 5.

John Barber, aged 10 months, at No. 1, Castle-court, in the Rents.

Mr. Morgan, a member of this committee, states, that he attended two other children, inhabitants of Fullwood's Rents, who had the Small-pox within the same period, and who recovered.

CASE I.

ANN, or NANCY, HODGES, the account of whose Vaccination is given at page 6, had been, after the last date in the Hospital Register frequently exposed to the contagion of the natural Small-Pox. During the prevalence of that disease in Fullwood's Rents, in August, 1804, she was allowed to associate with some of the children labouring under it; and on Wednesday, the 29th of August, she was taken with sickness, vomiting, headache, and shiverings, which were succeeded by great heat, and flushing of the face. About 3 o'clock in the morning of Friday the 31st, she had a convulsion fit: a few hours afterwards an eruption began to appear on the skin, which increased to the number of from one hundred to two hundred pimples. These gradually filled with matter, and began to turn on the 7th day

from their first appearance. In two or three days more, several of the pustules became dry and scabby: on the 15th of September they were all so dry, that no matter could be taken from them; and on the 30th, the portions of the skin, which had been occupied by the pustules, exhibited a reddish brown appearance. The child was attended by Mr. Owen, Apothecary, of Little Britain, who considered the disease to be Small-pox.

This case, as above related, stands wholly on the evidence of Mrs. Hodges, the mother, her child not having been seen by any member of this committee, until the 18th of September, when all the scabs had fallen off, and no appearance remained of the disorder but the reddish marks above mentioned.

CASE

CASE II.

MARY HODGES, sister of Nancy Hodges, (see above, page 7) having been for some time affected with the hooping cough, was observed on the 13th of September, 1804, to be more than usually indisposed. The symptoms were nearly the same as those of her sister, (page 11) but she had less sickness, and no convulsion fit. On the morning of the 15th of September, a pustular eruption appeared on her neck and chest; and the number of pustules continued to increase through the two following days. Mr. Owen, who was also consulted on this child's case, declared the disease to be Small-pox; but after three or four days he was prevented by illness from attending her any longer.

Mr. Morgan being desired by a patient, whom

whom he was attending in Fullwood's-rents, to visit this child, saw her first on the 18th of September, and from that time observed daily the progress of the disease.

He concluded, on conversing with Mrs. Hodges, that Mary's pustules were smaller than her elder sister's had been (page 11); also, that they proceeded towards maturation more slowly; and that the inflammation round their bases was of a higher colour, and more extensive.—In the present case, the pustules were numerous on every part of the body, mostly distinct, but in several places coherent, though not confluent. An indentation was perceptible in the centre of most of them, and as they approached to maturity, their edges were of a purple or bluish colour. There was a considerable swelling of the face, hands, and feet, from the 4th to the 8th day of eruption, On the 5th and 6th day, the eyelids were tumified by the

inflammation

inflammation of the numerous pustules upon them, and closed by a viscid secretion from the tarsal glands. On uncovering the child, at this time, the peculiar fœtor of Small-pox was very distinguishable. On the 6th and 7th day of the eruption, the face and neck were scabbed, the child having broken the pustules by constantly rubbing those parts. On the trunk of the body and lower extremities, the pustules turned, and began to dry, on the 8th day. The child had been very fretful and irritable during the whole period of maturation, but became much easier on the 8th day: on the 9th she continued to amend, and on the 10th was free from complaint.—Matter was taken at different times by several medical gentlemen, viz. Dr. Pearson, Mr. Carlisle, Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Spencer. Mr. Morgan moistened a lancet from a collapsing pustule on the 9th day of eruption, with which lancet he inoculated Mary Robins: matter was also taken on the 10th day.

On

On the 6th day of eruption, and on the six following days, this case was attentively examined by several members of the committee. On the 12th day of the eruption (September 26th), dry brown scabs had universally succeeded to the pustules, some of which appeared to have maturated partially, and a few of them not at all. At this time, also, the brown scabs in some parts were beginning to fall off; the rest separated within a week, and left marks and pits, both of which were apparent on the 16th of November.

INOCULATIONS FROM THE LAST CASE.

CASE III.

H. A.* a boy, aged 8 months, was inoculated, by Mr. Morgan, with matter taken from Mary Hodges, on Friday evening, the 21st of September, the 7th day of eruption. A single puncture was made in the left arm.

Saturday, Sept. 22.—The punctured part was very ſlightly inflamed.

Sunday, Sept. 23.—There was very little alteration.

Monday, Sept. 24.—The punctured part was more inflamed.

Tuesday, Sept. 25.—The inflammation was increasing, with a little elevation.

* This being a private patient, the committee is not at liberty to publish the name.

Wednesday, Sept. 26.—The inoculated part was considerably elevated and inflamed, and there was a hardness round the puncture. On applying a magnifier, the elevated surface was observed to be very uneven, though to the naked eye it had appeared convex, or conical.*

Thursday, Sept. 27.—The inflammation and elevation had increased, and there was a very slight areola round the puncture.

Friday, Sept. 28.—The inflammation and elevation were still increasing.

Saturday, Sept. 29.—The inoculated part had the appearance usual after variolous inoculation, being whitish, flattened, uneven, and irregularly circumscribed. The areola

* On this, and every succeeding day throughout the disease, the patient was visited, and the change of appearances was noted by different members of the committee.

was

was at this time considerable: in the evening the mother noticed the child's dislike to being lifted up by the arms, and inquired if this were a common occurrence. No enlargement or hardness was perceptible in the axilla.

Towards night the child became very fretful, the heat of the skin was much greater than usual, the tongue was whitish, and the breath offensive; the inflammation and vesication of the inoculated part had increased, and the areola was very extensive.

Sunday, Sept. 30.—The child had frequent nausea, with headache, dullness of the eyes, a quick pulse, and other symptoms of fever. Several shivering fits occurred during the day; and a few small pimples appeared on one knee, also two or three pustules within the areola.

Monday, Oct. 1.—The child continued very

 feverish,

feverish, restless, and fretful. An eruption of pimples, about twenty in number, appeared on the thighs and legs. The arm was nearly as yesterday, but with some enlargement of the vesication.

Tuesday, Oct. 2.—The fever was abated; the child had passed a good night; and pustules were now observed on every part of the body, their number being not less than two hundred and fifty. From this time the progress of vesication on the arm was the same as in the inoculated Small-pox.

Wednesday, Oct. 3.—The child had rested well in the night, and seemed much better; the pustules were filled with lymph, some of them being of a considerable size; two pustules on the right knee were manifestly indented: on the limbs there were several clusters of them.

Thursday,

Thursday, Oct. 4.—Matter appeared in the pustules, especially in those on the face and extremities.

Friday, Oct. 5.—The child was perfectly well: the pustules seemed approaching to maturity, though many of them had indentations: this morning a considerable fœtor was perceived on taking him from the cradle.

Saturday, Oct. 6.—Being somewhat feverish, and having had several loose stools, he appeared weak and languid. The pustules on the face were beginning to turn.

Monday, Oct. 8.—The purging had abated: the pustules on the face were becoming brown.

Tuesday, Oct. 9.—The purging had ceased; the pustules on the body and limbs were declining.

Wednesday,

Wednesday, Oct. 10.—The child was well; the pustules on the face and on the other parts of the body were dry.

Thursday, Oct. 11.—The pustules were succeeded by scabs of a yellowish brown colour.

Monday, Oct. 15.—The child continued perfectly well, and in good spirits.

Friday, Oct. 26.—Some red marks remained after the pustules, and many pits were visible on different parts of the body.

THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASES WHICH FOLLOW BEING VERY SIMILAR TO THOSE OF CASE III. THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERED IT UNNECESSARY TO GIVE THEM IN DETAIL.

CASE IV.

MARY ROBINS, a delicate child, 5 weeks old, was inoculated by Mr. Morgan, on Sunday the 23d of September, with matter taken on the 9th day of the eruption from Mary Hodges, in the presence of her mother and sister. Three punctures were made in each arm.

The appearances on the child's arm were the same as in the inoculated Small-pox. An eruption appeared on the 10th day, consisting

of

of about 14 small pustules, scattered over the body: several of them maturated properly, and scabbed before the 9th of October.

During the time this child was under inoculation, it had a very considerable eruption of the red gum.

Second Series of Inoculations.

CASE V.

JAMES BAILEY, a healthy child, aged 18 months, was inoculated by three punctures in each arm, on the 3d of October, 1804, with matter taken from the thigh of H. A. (page 17) on the 12th day from his inoculation. The matter was taken, and the inoculation performed, by Mr. Morgan, in the presence of Dr. Temple, Dr. Yelloly, Mr. Pears, Mr. Wigham, and Mr. Hurlock.

The

The subsequent appearances on the arms were such as usually take place after variolous inoculation. On the 11th of October the child had convulsions, succeeded by an eruption of pimples, which never maturated, but in a few days, scaled off.

On Wednesday, October 17, the scabs on the arms were perfectly dry, and one of them had fallen off the preceding night.

CASE VI.

CHARLES BAILEY, the brother of James, a very delicate child, aged 11 weeks, was inoculated by Mr. Morgan, in presence of the same members of the Committee, on the same day (3d October), with matter taken from the thigh of H. A. on the 12th day from his inoculation, three punctures being made in each arm.

The appearances on the arms in this case corresponded with those in the former; but the eruptions, which began to appear on the 11th of October, continued coming out, with feverish symptoms, until the 17th, (both days inclusive). All the pustules, however, exhibited the usual characteristics of Small-pox. It is remarkable, that the pustules on the face and arms appeared last, and were in a state of perfect maturation, at the time when those on the body and lower extremities were dried.

CASE VII.

SAMUEL EDWARDS, a healthy child, aged 5 months, was inoculated, on the same day, with matter taken from H. A. by Mr. Morgan, in presence of the same members of the committee.

In

In this child, the series of appearances on the arms was the same as in the inoculated Small-pox. After a considerable degree of fever, the eruption took place on the 10th of October, and maturated on the 13th. On the 17th of October many of the pustules were dry, but others remained full of matter, especially on the face. On the 18th the pustules were universally dry.

CASE VIII.

——— MABBETH, aged 12 weeks, was inoculated by Mr. Morgan, on the 15th of October, in preſence of Dr. Willan, with matter from one of the pustules on Samuel Edwards (ſee Caſe VII). Both the local, and general symptoms of the disease thus produced, were evidently the same as in the inoculated Small-pox. The eruption consisted of 25 or 30 pustules.

On the 3d of November, this child, being perfectly recovered, was again inoculated by Mr. Morgan, with variolous matter taken from the arm of a patient under inoculation at the Small-pox Hospital.* In this second inocu-

* The re-inoculation, with matter from another source, was done with a wish to satisfy some practitioners, who could not persuade themselves that the eruption on Mary Hodges was

the

lation, Dr. Willan and Mr. Wachsel saw the fluid matter carefully inserted by two punctures in each arm. However, the punctures healed in a short time without having excited any degree of inflammation.

Variolous Inoculation subsequent to Cow-pox.

CASE IX.

WILLIAM BAILEY, brother of James and Charles Bailey (page 24-5), had been vaccinated three years ago by Mr. Wachsel, at the Small-pox Hospital, and the usual mark succeeding vaccination yet remains upon his arm.

the Small-pox, but supposed it might be either generically different from the variolous eruption, or some modification of it that would not emancipate the constitution from being again affected with the genuine disease.—If these gentlemen are not satisfied by the result of this case, an opportunity will be afforded of inoculating the child a third time, with other matter.

On

On Sunday, October 14th, this boy was inoculated by Mr. Morgan, in presence of Dr. Temple, with matter taken from his brother Charles Bailey, two punctures being made in each arm.

On Monday, October the 15th, the punctured parts were hard, prominent, and inflamed, the rounded elevations being about a third of an inch in diameter. On Wednesday, October 17th, there had been, on their summits, a little matter, which was, this day, beginning to dry: the inflammation and tumefaction were also declining. October 22, the punctured parts were scabbed, and quite dry.

This boy lived in the same room, and slept in the same bed with his brothers, while they were under inoculation. He remains, at the time of the date of this report, in perfect health. Vaccination has, therefore, prevented him from taking the Small-pox, either by contagion, or inoculation.

After having faithfully reported the particulars of the investigation proposed, (page 3), the Committee begs leave to observe, that there seems no reason to question the regular progress of the vaccination in Nancy and Mary Hodges, nor the exiſtence of the Small-pox more than two years afterwards in the latter, there being no material variation from the usual course of symptoms, either in the disease of Mary Hodges, or in the cases of inoculation with matter taken from her pustules.—The Committee, however, feels it a duty to remark, that the above facts are not to be considered as militating against the general practice of vaccination. Some well authenticated, though rare cases have been stated, in which the natural Small-pox occurred twice in the same person. A few other instances are recorded of persons, who, after having undergone the inoculated Small-pox, nevertheless took the dis-

ease

ease by infection: yet these cases were not deemed conclusive against the advantages of variolous inoculation, nor do they seem to have impeded its progress.

In every country where European science is diffused, the general preventive power of vaccine inoculation with regard to the Small-pox, has been fully ascertained, and cannot now be affected by the result of a few detached cases, which, by future observations and experiments, may be accounted for satisfactorily —The Committee, therefore, with one accord, subscribes to the established opinion, that if vaccination were universally adopted, it would afford the means of finally exterminating the Small-pox.

THE END.

HOLBORN;
20th of November, 1804.

T. Gillet, Printer, Salisbury-square.